

REPORT
ON THE WORKING OF THE
REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT 9235
IN THE
PROVINCE OF ASSAM
FOR THE YEAR
1918.



SHILLONG :

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No. 475R.

FROM

S. N. MACKENZIE, Esq., I.C.S.,

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF REGISTRATION, ASSAM,

To

THE SECOND SECRETARY TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER
OF ASSAM.

Dated Shillong, the 15th April 1919.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the statistics of the Registration Department of the Province of Assam for the year 1918, together with the one Provincial and four Imperial statements.

2. I was in charge of the department from 1st January to 2nd October, and Mr. W. L. Scott, I.C.S., from the 3rd October to the end of the year.

3. A new office was opened experimentally at Bhangabazar in the district of Sylhet during the year under report. The number and constitution of the offices at the end of the year were as follows :—

Whole-time offices, permanent	...	...	...	...	25
Ditto, temporary	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Ex-officio</i> offices	...	...	...	...	14
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	40
					<hr/>

4. The total number of deeds registered in the province during the year under report was 73,136 as against 89,113 in the previous year, a decrease of 15,977 documents or 17·92 per cent. All the districts except Nowgong and Khasi and Jaintia Hills are responsible for the decrease. The most noticeable decreases are 12,626 in Sylhet, 2,346 in Cachar and 534 in Goalpara, and were mainly under the head "Compulsory registration." The want of ready money, and high prices, the fall in the price of rice and prevalence of influenza were the main causes at work in Sylhet and Cachar. The effects of the flood of 1916 and outbreaks of cholera were additional causes in Cachar. In Goalpara the decrease is assigned to the closure of resettlement in certain zemindaries in the Dhubri subdivision and to the survey which is being carried out in the Mechpara Ward's Estate in the Goalpara subdivision. There was an increase of 102 documents in the district of Nowgong, due to the influx of foreign settlers.

The decreases of 5,943 documents under head "Mortgages" and 6,418 under head "Sales" mainly occurred in the districts of Sylhet and Cachar. The District Registrar, Sylhet, remarks that the "people did not sell their lands as the price was low owing to the scarcity of money, and money-lenders were also averse to giving loans as the old loans were not being paid up" while the District Registrar, Cachar, attributes the decrease to a fall in land values.

In comparison with last year, there was a decrease of Rs. 13,43,315 in the total aggregate value of the deeds registered during the year; the cause is obvious.

5. The total receipts of the department from all sources were Rs. 88,013 as against Rs. 1,01,813 in the preceding year. The decrease is due to the decrease in the number of documents presented. In the districts of Cachar and Garo Hills, the department worked at a loss of Rs. 225 and Rs. 5, respectively, during the year under report.

6. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 64,983 as against Rs. 68,009 in the previous year. Smaller expenditure on account of temporary establishment and discontinuance of grain compensation allowance in the districts of Cachar and Darrang, non-payment of commission for 2 months to the *ex-officio* Sub-Registrar of Lakhipur and of rent for the Katigora Sub-Registry office building throughout the year in the district of Cachar, and the fact that the post of probationer was not filled in the district of Sylhet, are responsible for the decrease in the total expenditure.

7. Four prosecutions were instituted during the year, 3 of which resulted in conviction while one was pending at the end of the year. Of the 3 prosecutions resulting in conviction, 2 were instituted by the Sub-Registrar of Jorhat on charges of fabricating false evidence by altering the date of a document in order to secure its registration. The accused were sentenced to one day's rigorous imprisonment and to pay fines of Rs. 200 and Rs. 100, respectively. In the third case, instituted by the Sub-Registrar of Sukhair in the district of Sylhet for false identification, the accused was fined Rs. 15.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

S. N. MACKENZIE,

Inspector General of Registration, Assam.

REGISTRATIONS AFFECTING IMMOVABLE PROPERTY, BOOK I.

GOVERNMENT.

OPTIONAL

Districts.												Number of Registration offices.											
Instrument of gift [Section 17, clause (a)].												Instrument of Registration offices.											
Instrument of sale of property, 100 and upwards.												Instrument of sale of property, less than 100 (sections 34 and 115 of the Transfer of property by Act).											
1												1											
All instruments of lease (other than of lease for less than 100). Total compulsory registration.												Number.											
Amounts of premium paid on leases.												Aggregate value.											
Instrument of annual rents.												Number.											
Value of annual rents.												Aggregate value.											
Other instruments registered under section 17, clauses (b) and (c).												Number.											
Instruments of perpetuities [Section 17, clause (d)].												Value of annual rents.											
All instruments of lease (other than of lease for less than 100). Total compulsory registration.												Number.											
Amounts of premium paid on leases.												Aggregate value.											
Instrument of annual rents.												Number.											
Value of annual rents.												Aggregate value.											
Instrument of monthly rents.												Number.											
Amounts of monthly rents.												Aggregate value.											
Instrument of quarterly rents.												Number.											
Amounts of quarterly rents.												Aggregate value.											
Instrument of half yearly rents.												Number.											
Amounts of half yearly rents.												Aggregate value.											
Instrument of yearly rents.												Number.											
Amounts of yearly rents.												Aggregate value.											
Instrument of monthly, quarterly, half yearly and yearly rents.												Number.											
Amounts of monthly, quarterly, half yearly and yearly rents.												Aggregate value.											
Instrument of monthly, quarterly, half yearly and yearly rents.												Number.											
Amounts of monthly, quarterly, half yearly and yearly rents.												Aggregate value.											
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Instrument of monthly, quarterly, half yearly and yearly rents.												Number.											
Amounts of monthly, quarterly, half yearly and yearly rents.												Aggregate value.											

Statement of Instruments registered, and of the value of property transferred by registered Instruments, in each of the districts of the Province of Assam for the year 1918.

REGISTRATIONS AFFECTING MOVABLE PROPERTY, BOOK I—concl.

REGISTRATIONS AFFECTING MOVABLE PROPERTY, BOOK I—concl.

FORM NO. II.

Statement of income, namely, fees realised on registrations and all other receipts in each of the districts of the Province of Assam for the year 1918.

FORM No. III.

Statement of Expenditure in each district of the Province of Assam for the year 1913.

District.	Fixed salaries of Regis- tering Officers.	Percentage paid to Registering Officers.	Cost of Establishments.			Other items of expendi- ture.	Total Expenditure.
			Permanent.	Temporary.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	4,540	400	4,612	11	4,623	615	10,178
Sylhet	24,135	... 170	17,574 177	1,475 ...	19,049 177	3,186 19	46,670 366
Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	...					
Total Surma Valley and Hill Districts.	28,975	570	22,363	1,486	23,849	3,820	57,214
Goalpara	600	...	821	116	937	552	2,099
Kamrup	717	...	737	...	737	70	1,524
Darrang ... ... ...	...	...	368	111	479	2	451
Nowrang ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Sibsagar	1,667	...	1,363	76	1,439	81	3,087
Lakhimpur ... ... ...	...	51	893	17	410	87	548
Garo Hills ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	38	38
Total Assam Valley Districts...	2,884	51	3,682	320	4,002	832	7,769
Grand Total	31,859	631	26,045	1,806	27,851	4,652	64,983
Total for the previous year ...	31,614	1,150	26,911	2,657	29,568	5,677	68,009

FORM No. IV.

Statement of principal operations other than Registration in Books I, III and IV in each district of the Province of Assam for the year 1918.

PROVINCIAL STATEMENT A.

STATEMENT OF REGISTRATIONS, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF EACH REGISTRATION OFFICE IN THE PROVINCE OF ASSAM DURING THE YEAR 1918.

Offices.	Total number of documents registered in Books I, III and IV.	Total amount of ordinary fees.	Total of other receipts.	Total receipts.	Total expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Silchar	3,878	Rs. 8,609	Rs. 936	Rs. 4,545	Rs. 4,841
Hailakandi	2,272	2,438	217	2,655	1,927
Katigora	1,374	1,047	77	1,124	2,203
Lakhimpur	628	556	14	570	526
Palonghat	1,160	1,022	37	1,059	881
Total	9,312	8,672	1,281	9,953	10,178
Sylhet	1,536	1,962	3,686	5,648	7,494
Ditto Joint	4,100	4,200	862	5,062	2,552
Thakurbari	2,493	2,396	227	2,623	1,681
Habiganj	4,380	4,848	1,490	6,338	3,114
Sunamganj	3,952	3,367	464	3,831	2,242
Karimganj	3,980	4,902	1,120	5,422	2,750
South Sylhet	3,754	3,758	704	4,462	2,054
Balaganj	2,889	2,767	514	3,281	2,164
Kulaura	2,114	2,183	515	2,698	2,173
Madhabpur	2,789	2,596	279	2,875	2,163
Jaldhup	4,108	3,813	309	4,122	2,151
Kanairghat	2,008	1,311	69	1,380	1,622
Jagannathpur	2,594	2,266	373	2,639	1,874
Patharkandi	1,438	1,227	185	1,412	1,729
Baniyachang	3,059	2,651	339	2,990	2,670
Gowainghat	1,323	880	103	988	2,031
Biswanath	2,721	2,485	478	2,963	2,172
Srimangal	1,767	1,545	214	1,759	1,928
Sukhiai	1,614	1,429	208	1,637	1,575
Bhangabazar	725	693	91	784	581
Total	53,339	50,679	12,230	62,909	46,670
Shillong	196	522	82	604	317
Jowai	72	101	1	102	49
Total	268	623	83	706	366
Total Surma Valley and Hill Districts	62,919	59,974	13,594	73,568	57,214
Dhubri	2,271	2,770	736	3,506	1,868
Goalpara	235	265	110	375	221
Total	2,506	8,036	846	3,881	2,089
Gauhati	1,785	2,009	891	2,900	1,524
Barpeta	524	394	194	588	..
Total	2,109	2,403	1,085	3,488	1,524
Tezpur	669	726	136	862	370
Mangaldai	230	222	49	271	111
Total	889	948	185	1,133	481
Nowgong	459	455	158	613	2
Total	459	455	158	613	2
Jorhat	1,716	1,554	373	1,927	2,318
Sibsagar	707	626	103	728	354
Golaghat	876	796	124	120	420
Total	3,299	2,975	600	3,575	3,087
Dibrugarh	774	1,234	372	1,606	500
North Lakhimpur	149	95	21	116	48
Total	923	1,329	393	1,722	548
Garo Hills	22	27	6	33	38
Total	22	27	6	33	38
Total of Assam Valley Districts	10,217	11,172	3,278	14,445	7,769
Grand Total	73,136	71,146	16,867	88,013	64,983
Total of previous year	89,113	82,713	19,100	1,01,813	68,009

